

Recovery for Education

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (H.R.1), which passed in February 2009 and was supported by Rep. Israel, included new funds to create and keep jobs in education and to help our schools succeed. The Recovery Act will assist Title I grants, IDEA, early childhood education, higher education, and our public library system. For more on these funds and how they will benefit New York, visit the New York State Recovery Act education page by [clicking here](#).

Keeping Promises to Local Schools

Rep. Israel believes we should increase federal funding for local schools to match the levels of accountability mandated by federal law. He doesn't believe in short-changing our children's education or forcing local governments to pick up the tab for unfunded mandates, which causes them to raise property taxes to make up the difference.



The No Child Left Behind Act added many requirements to local schools, with promises of federal funding that has yet to materialize. Congressman Israel cosponsored legislation to tie federal mandates on local schools to adequate funding.

Increasing Funding For the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Under this law, the federal government committed to covering a maximum of 40 percent of the cost of educating children with disabilities. It was assumed that educating children with disabilities was, on average, twice as costly as educating nondisabled children. However, federal funding for IDEA typically only represents approximately 17 percent of the estimated cost of providing special education and related services, leaving states and local governments responsible for a \$10 billion shortfall. By increasing funding IDEA on the federal level, we can improve education programs for students with disabilities and free up local funds to reduce class sizes, build and modernize schools and implement technology in the classroom.

Strong Ties With Long Island Schools

Rep. Israel knows that local schools understand local needs best. If you would like him to visit your school, please contact our Long Island office at 631-951-2210.